

JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Tuesday - 17 May 1960

1. (Unclassified - GLC) Mr. Robert N. Pyle, Administrative Assistant to Congressman Perkins Bass, called and asked if we could give him any information which could be used in the Congressman's newsletter on the subject of the U-2 incident. I referred Mr. Pyle to the statements by Congressmen Cannon and Taber on this on the Floor of the House on 10 May and indicated that this pretty well covered the subject. Pyle asked if we could provide any additional information and I indicated that we could not. He was particularly interested in any consideration of the possibility that Frances Powers might be a double agent. I advised him that I had no official information on this but would assume that this possibility would be considered along with others although I personally saw little possibility of this. Pyle said they might speculate a little in their newsletter in an effort to make it more interesting.

2. (Unclassified - GLC) Talked with Mr. Harry G. Barnes, Office of Soviet Union Affairs at the State Department, regarding Congressman Bennett's letter to State with a copy to the Agency on international law aspects of the aircraft incident. Barnes was advised that Mr. Houston would be pleased to handle this with the Congressman and that it was not necessary for a State Department representative to go with him unless State wished to have a man present. Barnes said he would discuss this with their legal people and have them get in touch with us. Barnes seemed perfectly agreeable to a personal approach by the Agency on this.

3. (Unclassified - JGO) Received the transcript of Friday's testimony by Agency representatives before the House Science and Astronautics Committee, from Dr. Dostert, Georgetown University. Necessary corrections and insertions are to be made by Mr. Paul Dorel, AD/OCR, and Mr. John Bagnall, Chief/FDD.

Excerpt from Journal

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4. (JRW - Secret) Talked with Spencer Beresford, House Committee on Science and Astronautics, about the dark satellite article appearing in the 11 February issue of THE NEW YORK TIMES. He indicated there had been no briefing of the Committee on this although they had received some reports from Colonel Dillon of the Air Force who is detailed for work with the Committee staff. The staff members received an informal briefing the following day - on the 12th - and the Committee was briefed the following Monday. Beresford is aware of the reasons for my questions since he had been interviewed extensively by ONI on the basis of his being a former Navy Intelligence Officer and still active in the Reserves. He indicated that he had provided all the information he had to the ONI group and presumably this is available to Security.